

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): ~~Process~~ A process for the preparation of a supported zeolite membrane ~~consists of~~ comprising a zeolite/substrate composite layer, whose zeolite phase exhibits a crystallinity of at least 85%, whereby said process comprises:

- a) the formation of a gel or a solution that comprises at least one source of silica and water, supplemented with at least one polar organic compound;
- b) bringing into contact said gel or said solution with a porous substrate;
- c) the crystallization of the zeolite starting from said gel or said solution; and
- d) the elimination of residual agents,

characterized in that, in stage (a), the molar ratio of water to silica in said gel or said solution is 27:1 to 35:1 and wherein in stage (c), the crystallization ~~time~~ is conducted for at least 25 hours at a temperature of 100-250°C.

Claim 2 (currently amended): ~~Process~~ A process according to claim 1, wherein in stage (a), the molar ratio of the water to the silica in said gel or said solution is between 27:1 and 32:1.

Claim 3 (currently amended): ~~Process~~ A process according to ~~one of claims 1 to 2~~, wherein in stage (a), the molar ratio of the water to the silica in said gel or said solution is between 28:1 and 31:1.

Claim 4 (currently amended): ~~Process~~ A process according to ~~one of claims 1 to 3~~, wherein in stage (c), the crystallization time is at least 65 hours.

Claim 5 (currently amended): ~~Process~~ A process according to ~~one of claims 1 to 4~~, wherein the zeolite phase exhibits a crystallinity of at least 90%.

Claim 6 (currently amended): ~~Process~~ A process according to ~~one of~~ claims 1 ~~to~~ 5, wherein in stage (a), the molar ratio of the polar organic compound to the silica is between 0.3:1 and 0.6:1.

Claim 7 (currently amended): ~~Process~~ A process according to ~~one of~~ claims 1 ~~to~~ 6, wherein the porous substrate ~~is selected from among the following materials~~ comprises: ceramic based on alumina and/or zirconia and/or titanium oxide, carbon, silica, zeolites, clays, glass ~~and~~ or metal.

Claim 8 (currently amended): ~~Process~~ A process according to ~~one of~~ claims 1 ~~to~~ 7, wherein the zeolite phase is of the MFI-structural type.

Claim 9 (currently amended): ~~Membrane~~ A membrane that is obtained by a process according to ~~one of~~ claims 1 ~~to~~ 8.

Claim 10 (currently amended): ~~Membrane~~ A membrane according to claim 9, wherein it exhibits, in ~~the~~ an n-butane/isobutane separation, an n-butane permeance of at least $3 \cdot 10^{-7}$ mol/m².s.Pa at the temperature of 180°C.

Claims 11-12 (cancelled)

Claim 13 (new): In a gas-separation process, a vapor-separation process, a liquid-separation process comprising passing a fluid through said membrane in order to separate said fluid, the improvement comprising employing as said membrane, a membrane according to claim 10.

Claim 14 (new): A process according to claim 13, comprising separating linear and branched paraffins.

Claim 15 (new): A process according to claim 1, wherein said at least one polar organic compound is selected from the group consisting of organic hydroxides, organic structuring agents

containing ammonium or phosphonium ions and corresponding anions, amines, alcohols, crown ethers and cryptands.

Claim 16 (new): A process according to claim 1, wherein the water to the silica in said gel or said solution is between 28:1 and 31:1; the crystallization time is at least 65 hours; the zeolite phase exhibits a crystallinity of at least 90%; the molar ratio of the polar organic compound to the silica is between 0.3:1 and 0.6:1; and the zeolite phase is of the MFI-structural type.

Claim 17 (new): A membrane obtained by a process according to claim 16.

Claim 18 (new): A process according to claim 1, wherein the crystallinity is conducted at a temperature of 150-210°C.

Claim 19 (new): A process according to claim 4, wherein the crystallinity is conducted at a temperature of 150-210°C.

Claim 20 (new): A membrane obtained by a process according to claim 19.